1: Rosen E-5 (1901-1902) 1924 SK6 Choroti SK6

is applied about the socket, there is sometimes, covering it wholly or in part, a casing of snake or lizard skin (fig. 106). In order that the heavy arrow-head (together with its socket) may not happen to slip out of the shaft when the arrow is being carried in the belt, the foremost end of the string used in winding on the socket is often passed back along the socket (in the way shown in fig. 105)) and tied on to the winding on the fore end of the shaft.

Poison is never put on the arrow-heads, but these are often provided with barbs (figs. 99—102). For bird shooting the Choroti use arrows with a club-shaped head (fig. 103), in appearance similar to those I have described from the Chiriguano. Among the Choroti, however, there are seldom seen club-like arrow heads that have, in the centre of their striking face, a projection such as the Chiriguano arrows have (see fig. 212 and p. 209). As regards the Choroti arrows I have here reproduced, their lengths, and other particulars about them, will be seen from the appended table.

Fig. 107. Feathering of the arrow, fig. 90. 1/1.

I think I ought to mention that in ancient Indian graves in the mountain region there have been found arrows of exactly the same types as those nowadays used by the Choroti and other peoples of the Chaco.[1] These types are, however, not those that are characteristic of the mountain region, the arrows of the mountain tribes now inhabiting the area of the ancient Peruvian realm having quite a different appearance.[2]

As regards arrow heads, I wish to point out that even the most singular forms may be common to peoples that are each others' antipodes. In cases where human beings have reached much the same stage of cultural development, when they have similar needs, and access to the same sort of materials for weapons and other implements, then similar forms of implements are apt to be produced, independent of time and locality. As an example of this I may adduce that among the Esquimaux of western Greenland are to be found arrows with bone heads of exactly the same

[1] See for example Boman (4), pp. 729—730; Joyce (1), plate XXVI, fig. 4; Lehmann Nitsche (4), p. 37.
[2] See for example von Rosen (10), figs. 140—143.

1: Rosen E-5 (1901-1902) 1924 SK6 Choroti SK6

000 the bird. And if he happens to be hunting in a district where ant-hills abound, he uses for concealment, instead, a bunch of creepers of the kinds that are growing on every termite hill. Where the country is open, and only grown with low bushes, Lengua hunters employ another trick. They close up the spaces between a large number of bushes that are more or less in a straight row, by which means a long, low, and hedge-like fence is produced. The bowmen are then posted at suitable points along the fence, and other Indians, who have been lying concealed at a distance, proceed to drive the ostriches towards it. Although the ostriches could easily jump the low fence, they are stupid enough to run along it, with the idea of finding an opening where they might get through. In that way they sooner or later get quite close to the bowmen, who are then easily able to kill them with their arrows.[1]

Fig. 108. Implement consisting of two reed splints, tied together. Said to be an imitative call instrument for decoying game into range for shooting. Choroti. Gran Chaco, Bolivia. 1/2. Riksm. 03. 3. 218.

224 198 The Choroti often decoy game by imitating the calls of various animals. The game-calls are sometimes produced by artificial means, sometimes without any instrument. Figure 108 shows an implement that, reputedly, was used for enticing game to approach within arrow range, but I have unfortunately no notes to explain the manner in which it was used. I reproduce it here, however, in the hope that some other Chaco student may be able to supply such information about it as is now lacking. The object consists of two reed splints tied together with their concave sides facing each other.

224 The Choroti are skilful trackers, though in this art they do not come up to the level of the game-hunting tribes I came into contact with in Africa. When I was shooting in the neighbourhood of our Tatarenda camp, I often had with me Indians who assisted me to find the game, and to recover killed or wounded animals. They then always walked in single file (»Indian file«), as seen in fig. 109.

223 The snares that the Choroti use consist of spun caraguatá fibre; they are mostly used for catching birds, and are arranged either as springe snares, or are placed in a forked branch like an ordinary running noose trap.[2]

[1] Grubb (1), p. 85.

[2] Nordenskiöld (17), figs. 45 and 48.